

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

ORDER NO. 01-020

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
MISSION SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT, OWNER/OPERATOR
ALAN HORTON WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
AND WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SYSTEMS
Desert Hot Springs - Riverside County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region finds that:

1. Mission Springs Water District (hereinafter referred to as the discharger), 66575 East Second Street, Desert Hot Springs, California 92240, submitted an application to update its Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the Alan Horton Wastewater Treatment Plant, and wastewater collection and disposal systems. The Waste Discharge Requirements are for the Alan Horton Wastewater Treatment Plant, and wastewater collection and disposal systems.
2. The discharger owns a wastewater collection, treatment and disposal system (hereinafter referred to as the facility) and provides sewerage service to portions of the City of Desert Hot Springs. The Alan Horton Wastewater Treatment Plant is located at 14601 Verbena, Desert Hot Springs, California. It has a design treatment capacity of 1.0 million gallons-per-day (MGD) and presently discharges approximately 0.856 MGD into five (5) infiltration basins, which are located in SE¼ of the NE¼ of Section 6, T3S, R5E, SBB&M.
3. The wastewater treatment plant consists of preliminary and secondary treatment, and solids and effluent disposal systems.
4. Untreated wastewater flows to the preliminary treatment system, which consists of a bar screen, comminutor and a grit hopper with a grit washer. Wastewater from the preliminary treatment system is pumped either to the 0.2 MGD contact stabilization unit or to one (1) of the three (3) extended aeration units. Two (2) of the extended aeration units have treatment capacities of 0.2 MGD and the third extended aeration unit has a treatment capacity of 0.4 MGD. Effluent from the three (3) extended aeration units gravity flows to three (3) secondary clarifiers. Effluent from the contact stabilization unit (has integral clarifier) and secondary clarifiers flows to one (1) of five (5) percolation ponds for disposal.
5. Scum and sludge wasting from the contact stabilization's integral clarifier and from the three (3) secondary clarifiers are pumped to one (1) of the twenty-seven (27) sludge-drying beds. A private contractor hauls the solids off-site for disposal or further treatment for land application. The collected grit is hauled for disposal at the Edom Hill Landfill in full compliance with the Riverside County Health Department's guidelines and approvals.
6. The discharger is presently under construction to expand the treatment capacity from 1.0 MGD to 2.0 MGD. The proposed expansion consists of replacing the existing preliminary treatment system, adding new secondary treatment units, and upgrading the sludge drying beds.
 - a. The replacement of the existing preliminary treatment consists of a new influent pump station, a new influent flow-meter, grinder, grit chamber and influent splitter box;

- b. The expansion of the secondary treatment consists of adding two (2) new extended aeration units (each rated at 0.50 MGD) with two (2) additional clarifiers. This will increase the secondary treatment capacity to 1.0 MGD; and
 - c. The upgrading of the sludge drying beds consists of eliminating eight (8) of the sand sludge drying beds and constructing twelve (12) new asphaltic-concrete lined sludge drying beds. This will increase the total number of sludge drying beds to thirty-one (31).
7. There are no domestic wells within 1,000 feet of the on-site infiltration basins described in Finding No. 2, above.
8. The discharger reports that the soil in the vicinity of the wastewater treatment plant, from ground surface to twenty-five (25) feet beneath ground surface, is coarse, clean, whitish gray, dry sand. From a depth of twenty-five (25) to twenty-eight (28) feet below ground surface, the soil is sandy silt, light brown in color and slightly porous. Thereafter, the soil is similar to that in the first twenty-five (25) feet, except it is much finer and has traces of silt in it. Infiltration rate is 0.67 feet per day. Groundwater is located 300 feet below ground surface.
9. A wash (ephemeral creek) borders the northeast corner of the wastewater treatment plant. The site is protected from flooding by an earthen berm and a 3.5-foot tall block wall on the north. An earthen berm covered with rock rip-rap starts at the northeast corner and extends southward for channeling floodwater outward and away from the plant. The discharger states that the site is adequately protected from a 100-year storm event.
10. Federal regulations for storm water discharges were promulgated by the USEPA on 16 November 1990 (40 CFR Parts 122, 123, and 124). The regulations require specific categories of facilities which discharge storm water associated with industrial activity to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits and to implement Best Conventional Pollutant Technology (BCPT) to reduce or eliminate industrial storm water pollution.
11. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted Order No. 97-03-DWQ (General Permit No. CAS000001) specifying Waste Discharge Requirements for discharges of storm water associated with industrial activities, excluding construction activities, and requiring submittal of a Notice of Intent by industries to be covered under the Permit.
12. This discharge has been subject to Waste Discharge Requirements adopted in Board Order No. 95-047.
13. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region of California (Basin Plan) was adopted on November 17, 1993, and designates the beneficial uses of ground and surface waters in this Region.
14. The beneficial uses of ground waters in the Coachella Hydrologic Subunit are:
 - a. Municipal supply (MUN)
 - b. Industrial supply (IND)
 - c. Agricultural supply (AGR)
15. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Mission Springs Water District, acting as the lead agency, has filed a Notice of Determination for the expansion of the Alan Horton Wastewater Treatment Plant. On March 4, 1999, the Riverside County

Clerk posted the Notice of Determination with the Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH#98091062) for the expansion of the Alan Horton Wastewater Treatment Plant.

16. The Board has notified the discharger and all known interested agencies and persons of its intent to update Waste Discharge Requirements for this discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public meeting and an opportunity to submit comments.
17. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Board Order No. 95-047 is rescinded, and in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, the discharger shall comply with the following:

A. Effluent Limitations

1. Wastewater effluent discharged to or contained in the infiltration basins from treatment facilities shall not contain constituents in excess of the following limits:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>30-Day Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate¹</u>	<u>7-Day Arithmetic Mean DischargeRate²</u>
20°C BOD ₅ ³	mg/L ⁴	30	45
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	30	45

2. The effluent values for pH shall not be below 6.0 or above 9.0.
3. The 30-day average daily dry weather discharge flow shall not exceed 1.0 MGD and upon completion of expansion, shall not exceed 2.0 MGD.
4. The increase in concentration of total dissolved solids (TDS) in the wastewater discharged to the treatment basins over that contained in the water supply to the community shall not exceed 400 mg/L. Whenever this TDS is exceeded, the discharger shall develop and implement appropriate mitigation measures, which are acceptable to the Regional Board's Executive Officer.

B. Specifications

1. The infiltration facilities shall be maintained and operated so as to maximize infiltration and minimize the increase of salinity in the groundwater.
2. A minimum depth of freeboard of two (2) feet shall be maintained at all times in each infiltration basin.
3. There shall be no surface flow of wastewater away from the designated disposal areas.
4. Neither the treatment nor the discharge of wastes shall cause a pollution or a nuisance, as

¹ 30 Day Mean-The arithmetic mean of pollutant parameter values of samples collected in a period of 30 consecutive days as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

² 7 Day Mean-The arithmetic mean of pollutant parameter values of samples collected in a period of 7 consecutive days as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

³ BOD₅ - Biochemical Oxygen Demand

⁴ mg/L - Milligrams-per-Liter

defined in Sections 13050(l) and 13050(m) of Division 7 of the California Water Code.

5. Public contact with non-disinfected wastewater shall be precluded through such means as fences, signs, and other acceptable alternatives.
6. The discharge shall not cause degradation of any water supply.
7. Infiltration basins shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes, in particular:
 - a. An erosion control program should assure that small coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.
 - b. Weeds shall be minimized through control of water depth, harvesting, or herbicides.
 - c. Dead algae, vegetation, and debris shall not accumulate on the water surface.
8. Objectionable odors originating at this facility shall not be perceivable beyond the limits of the wastewater treatment and disposal area.
9. The infiltration ponds shall be maintained so they will be kept in aerobic conditions.
10. As a means of discerning compliance with Specifications No. 8 and No. 9, for discharge to infiltration/storage basins, the dissolved oxygen content in the upper zone (one foot) of infiltration/storage basins shall not be less than 1.0 mg/L.
11. Treated or untreated sludge or similar solid waste materials shall be disposed at locations approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
12. The wastewater treatment facility shall be protected from any washout or erosion of wastes or covering material, and from any inundation, which could occur as a result of floods having a predicted frequency of once in 100 years.

C. Prohibitions

1. The direct discharge of any wastewater from the facility to any surface waters or surface drainage courses is prohibited.
2. Bypass, overflow, discharge, or spill of untreated or partially treated waste is prohibited.
3. The discharge of waste to land not owned or controlled by the discharger is prohibited.
4. Discharge of treated waste at a location or in a manner different from that described in Findings No. 2, 4, 5 and 6, is prohibited.
5. The discharger shall not accept waste in excess of the design treatment capacity of the disposal system.

D. Provisions

1. The discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 01-020", and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Regional Board's Executive Officer.
2. Prior to any modifications of this facility, which would result in material change in the quality or quantity of wastewater treated or discharged, or any material change in the

- location of discharge, the discharger shall report all pertinent information in writing to the Regional Board and obtain revised requirements before any modifications are implemented.
3. Prior to any change in ownership or management of this operation, the discharger shall transmit a copy of this Board Order to the succeeding owner/operator, and forward a copy of the transmittal letter to the Regional Board.
 4. The discharger shall ensure that all site-operating personnel are familiar with the content of this Board Order, and shall maintain a copy of this Board Order at the site.
 5. This Board Order does not authorize violation of any federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
 6. Facilities shall be available to keep the plant in operation in the event of commercial power failure.
 7. The discharger shall allow the Regional Board, or an authorized representative, upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
 - a. Enter upon the premises regulated by this Board Order, or the place where records must be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
 - b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that shall be kept under the conditions of this Board Order;
 - c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Board Order; and
 - d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring compliance with this Board Order or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code, any substances or parameters at this location.
 8. The discharger shall comply with all of the conditions of this Board Order. Any noncompliance with this Board Order constitutes a violation of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and is grounds for enforcement action.
 9. The discharger shall, at all times, properly operate and maintain all systems and components of treatment and control which are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Board Order. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate process controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Board Order. All systems both in service and reserved, shall be inspected and maintained on a regular basis. Records shall be kept of the inspection results and maintenance performed and made available to the Regional Board upon demand.
 10. The discharger shall report any noncompliance that may endanger human health or the environment. Information shall be provided orally as soon as possible and no longer than twenty-four (24) hours of when the discharger becomes aware of the incident to the Regional Board office and the Office of Emergency Services. The discharger shall also leave a message on the Regional Board office voice recorder during non-business hours. A written report shall also be provided within five (5) business days of the time the discharger becomes aware of the incident. The written report shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause, the period of noncompliance, the anticipated time to achieve full compliance, and the steps taken or planned, to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence

of the noncompliance. The discharger shall report all intentional or unintentional sewage spills in excess of 1,000 gallons occurring within the facility or collection system to the Regional Board office in accordance with the above time limits.

11. The discharger shall comply with the following:
 - a. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.
 - b. The discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Board Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Board Order, for a period of at least five (5) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application.
 - c. Records of monitoring information shall include:
 1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
 2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
 3. The date(s) analyses were performed;
 4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
 5. The analytical techniques or methods used; and
 6. The results of such analyses.
12. Unless otherwise approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer, all analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Health Services. All analyses shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of "Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants", promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).
13. Adequate measures shall be taken to assure that flood or surface drainage waters do not erode or otherwise render portions of the discharge facilities inoperable.
14. The discharger's wastewater treatment plant shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certification of appropriate grade pursuant to Section 3680, Chapter 4, Division 4, Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.
15. The discharger shall provide a report to the Regional Board when it determines that the plant is operating at eighty (80) percent of the design capacity specified in Findings No. 6 above. The report should indicate what steps, if any; the discharger intends to take to provide for the expected wastewater treatment capacity necessary when the plant reaches design capacity.
16. The discharger is the responsible party for the waste discharge requirements and the monitoring and reporting program for the facility. The discharger shall comply with all conditions of these Waste Discharge Requirements. Violations may result in enforcement actions, including Regional Board Orders or court orders, requiring corrective action or imposing civil monetary liability, or in modification or revocation of these waste discharge requirements by the Regional Board.
17. The discharger shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical monitoring program reports, and such reports shall be submitted in accordance with the specifications prepared by the Regional Board's Executive Officer. Such specifications are subject to periodic revisions as may be warranted.

18. All storm water discharges from this facility must comply with the lawful requirements of municipalities, counties, drainage districts, and other local agencies, regarding discharges of storm water to storm water drain systems or other courses under their jurisdiction.
19. Ponds shall have sufficient capacity to accommodate allowable wastewater flow, design seasonal precipitation, ancillary inflow, and infiltration during the non-irrigation season. Design seasonal precipitation shall be based on total annual precipitation using a return period of 100 years, distributed monthly in accordance with historical rainfall patterns.
20. Storm water discharges from the facility shall not cause or threaten to cause pollution or contamination.
21. Storm water discharges from the facility shall not contain hazardous substances equal to or in excess of a reportable quantity listed in 40 CFR Part 117 and/or 40 CFR Part 302.
22. The discharger shall obtain prior written approval from the Regional Board specifying location and method of disposal, before disposing of treated or untreated sludge, or similar solid waste materials using a method not described in Findings No. 5 and No. 6. In addition, if the discharger intends to dispose of secondary sludge using a method not described in Findings No. 5 and No. 6, then the discharger shall provide a plan as to the method, treatment, handling and disposal of sludge that is consistent with all state and federal laws and regulations.
23. The discharger shall provide adequate notice to the Regional Board's Executive Officer of the following:
 - a. Any new introduction of pollutants into any of the treatment facilities described in the Findings of this Board Order from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Section 301 or 306 of the Clean Water Act, if it were directly discharging the pollutants.
 - b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into any of the treatment facilities described in the Findings of this Board Order by an existing or new source.
 - c. Any planned physical alterations or additions to the facilities described in this Board Order, or changes planned in the discharger's sludge use or disposal practice, where such alterations, additions, or changes may justify the application of Board Order conditions that are different from or absent in the existing Board Order, including notification of additional disposal sites not reported during the Board Order application process, or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan.
 - d. The discharger shall report all instances of noncompliance. Reports of noncompliance shall be submitted with the discharger's next scheduled Self-Monitoring Report or earlier if requested by the Regional Board's Executive Officer, or if required by an applicable standard for sludge use and disposal.
24. The discharger shall maintain a permanent log of all solids hauled away from the treatment facility for use/disposal elsewhere and shall provide a summary of the volume, type (screenings, grit, raw sludge, digested sludge), use (agricultural, composting, etc.), and the destination in accordance with the Monitoring and Reporting Program of this Board Order. The sludge that is stockpiled at the treatment facility shall be sampled and analyzed for those constituents listed in the sludge monitoring section of the Monitoring and Reporting Program of this Board Order and as required by Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 503. The results of the analyses should be submitted to the Regional Board as part of the

Monitoring and Reporting Program.

25. The discharger shall construct a ground water monitoring system in the vicinity of the unlined infiltration basins that shall enable ground water samples to be collected and analyzed as specified in the "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 01-020. This system shall be constructed within eight (8) months after approval of the design plans for said system and shall include at a minimum, one (1) ground water well up-gradient and (2) two ground water wells down-gradient of the infiltration basins.
26. The design plans for the ground water monitoring system shall be submitted to the Regional Board's Executive Officer for approval within six (6) months of adoption of this Board Order.
27. This Board Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the discharger for a Board Order modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Board Order condition. Causes for modification include the promulgation of new regulations, modification of land application plans, or modification in sludge use or disposal practices, or adoption of new regulations by the SWRCB or the Regional Board, including revisions to the Basin Plan.

E. Pretreatment

1. In the event that significant industrial wastewaters are being discharged to the wastewater treatment facility, then:
 - a. The discharger shall enforce the federal categorical pretreatment standards on all Categorical Industrial Users (CIUs).
 - b. The discharger shall notify the CIU of its discharge effluent limits. The limits must be as stringent as the pretreatment standards contained in the applicable federal category (40 CFR Part 400-699). The discharger may develop more stringent, technically based local limit if it can show cause.
 - c. The discharger shall notify the RWQCB if the CIU violates its discharge effluent limits.
2. The discharger shall provide the Regional Board with an annual report describing the pretreatment program activities over the previous twelve (12)-month period. The report shall be transmitted to the Regional Board office no later than January 31 of each year and include:
 - a. A summary of actions taken by the discharger which ensures industrial-user compliance;
 - b. An updated list of industrial users (by SIC categories) which were issued permits, and/or enforcement orders, and a status of compliance for each user; and
 - c. The name and address of each user that received a revised discharge limit.
3. The Regional Board retains the right to take legal action against an industrial user and/or the discharger where a user fails to meet the approved applicable pretreatment standards.

I, Philip A. Gruenberg, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct

copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on May 9, 2001.

Executive Officer